

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 197429
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 COME-00 HA-05
SY-05 /072 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE;JHGLENN:LCB
APPROVED BY EUR/EE:CWSCHMIDT
-----104206 042346Z /61
R 042104Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SOFIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 197429

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, OTRA, BU, US

SUBJECT: VISIT TO U.S. OF BULGARIAN PATRIARCH MAXIM

1. BULGARIAN EMBASSY CHARGE HIMMIRSKY CALLED ON EUR/EE DIRECTOR AND BULGARIAN DESK OFFICER ON AUGUST 1 TO INTRODUCE THE RT. REV. BISHOP SIMEON, THE HEAD OF THE BULGARIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH'S U.S., CANADIAN AND AUSTRALIAN DIOCESES. (BISHOP SIMEON'S RESPONSIBILITIES EXCLUDE NEW YORK STATE, WHICH IS HEADED BY METROPOLITAN JOSEPH.) SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION FOLLOWS.

2. BISHOP SIMEON INFORMED US OF THE UPCOMING SEPTEMBER 1-OCTOBER 5 VISIT TO THE U.S. OF BULGARIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH PATRIARCH MAXIM, WHICH, THE BISHOP SAID, AFTER THE VISIT HERE SEVERAL YEARS AGO BY THE PATRIARCH OF ANTIOCH, WOULD BE ONLY THE SECOND VISIT EVER BY AN EASTERN ORTHODOX CHURCH PATRIARCH TO THE U.S. BISHOP SIMEON SAID MAXIM WILL VISIT SELECTED BULGARIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH CONGREGATIONS.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 197429

TIONS AND WILL CONSECRATE TWO NEW CHURCHES IN AKRON AND LORRAINE, OHIO. HIS PARTY OF SIX WILL INCLUDE THREE METROPOLITANS, ONE ARCH-DEACON (HIS PERSONAL PHYSICIAN), AND A PROFESSOR SABETH, A CHURCH HISTORIAN. COPIES OF SEVERAL DOCUMENTS CONCERNING THE VISIT, INCLUDING THE ITINERARY, WHICH THE BISHOP PROVIDED TO UARE BEING

POUCHED TO THE EMBASSY.

3. BISHOP SIMEON ASKED ABOUT SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS FOR MAXIM'S VISIT, AND IMPLIED THAT A FEW HOTHEADS AMONG RECENT BULGARIAN IMMIGRANTS COULD TRY PUBLICLY TO EMBARRASS HIM. HE NOTED THAT SOME OF THESE IMMIGRANTS IDENTIFY THE BULGARIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH WITH COMMUNISM AND ARE PRESSURING IT TO BREAK WITH THE MOTHER CHURCH IN BULGARIA. A FEW INCIDENTS, SUCH AS SIT-INS IN CHURCHES AFTER SERVICES, HAVE ALREADY OCCURED. IN RESPONSE, WE UNDERTOOK TO ENSURE THAT THE LOCAL POLICE AUTHORITIES IN ALL OF THE CITIES PATRIARCH MAXIM WILL VISIT ARE AWARE OF HIS SCHEDULE AND THE IMPORTANCE OF HIS VISIT.

4. BISHOP SIMEON INFORMED US THAT DR. WILSON, THE SENATE CHAPLAIN, WILL ARRANGE A PROGRAM FOR THE PATRIARCH AT THE CAPITOL ON SEPTEMBER 21, INCLUDING A TOUR OF THE CAPITOL, LUNCH WITH THE OHIO CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION AND PERHAPS OTHERS, AND A VISIT TO A SESSION OF THE HOUSE OR SENATE. THE BISHOP NOTED THAT HE HAD NOT INFORMED THE WHITE HOUSE ABOUT THE PATRIARCH'S VISIT AND WE ASSURED HIM THAT WE WOULD DO SO. WE ALSO ADDED THAT THE DEPARTMENT WOULD BE PLEASED TO ASSIST IN THE RESOLUTION OF ANY SPECIAL PROBLEMS BUT THAT, AS OF NOW, PREPARATIONS SEEMED WELL IN HAND. VANCE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE197429
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: LCB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780320-0074
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780896/aaaadcxj.tel
Line Count: 86
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a6e2356a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1832057
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT TO U.S. OF BULGARIAN PATRIARCH MAXIM
TAGS: OVIP, OTRA, BU, US
To: SOFIA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a6e2356a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014